

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 418

AN ACT

To repeal sections 191.1146 and 334.108, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to telemedicine.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 191.1146 and 334.108, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 191.1146 and 334.108, to read as follows:

191.1146. 1. Physicians licensed under chapter 334 who use telemedicine shall ensure that a properly established physician-patient relationship exists with the person who receives the telemedicine services. The physician-patient relationship may be established by:

(1) An in-person encounter through a medical interview and physical examination;

(2) Consultation with another physician, or that physician's delegate, who has an established relationship with the patient and an agreement with the physician to participate in the patient's care; or

(3) A telemedicine encounter, if the standard of care does not require an in-person encounter, and in accordance with evidence-based standards of practice and telemedicine practice guidelines that address the clinical and technological aspects of telemedicine.

2. In order to establish a physician-patient relationship through telemedicine:

(1) The technology utilized shall be sufficient to establish an informed diagnosis as though the medical

interview and physical examination has been performed in person; and

(2) Prior to providing treatment, including issuing prescriptions or physician certifications under Article XIV of the Missouri Constitution, a physician who uses telemedicine shall interview the patient, collect or review relevant medical history, and perform an examination sufficient for the diagnosis and treatment of the patient.

[A] Any questionnaire completed by the patient, whether via the internet or telephone, shall include such information sufficient to provide the information as though the medical interview has been performed in person, otherwise such questionnaire does not constitute an acceptable medical interview and examination for the provision of treatment by telehealth.

334.108. 1. Prior to prescribing any drug, controlled substance, or other treatment through telemedicine, as defined in section 191.1145, or the internet, a physician shall establish a valid physician-patient relationship as described in section 191.1146. This relationship shall include:

(1) Obtaining a reliable medical history and performing a physical examination of the patient, adequate to establish the diagnosis for which the drug is being prescribed and to identify underlying conditions or contraindications to the treatment recommended or provided;

(2) Having sufficient **[dialogue]** exchange with the patient regarding treatment options and the risks and benefits of treatment or treatments;

(3) If appropriate, following up with the patient to assess the therapeutic outcome;

(4) Maintaining a contemporaneous medical record that is readily available to the patient and, subject to the

patient's consent, to the patient's other health care professionals; and

(5) Maintaining the electronic prescription information as part of the patient's medical record.

2. The requirements of subsection 1 of this section may be satisfied by the prescribing physician's designee when treatment is provided in:

(1) A hospital as defined in section 197.020;

(2) A hospice program as defined in section 197.250;

(3) Home health services provided by a home health agency as defined in section 197.400;

(4) Accordance with a collaborative practice agreement as defined in section 334.104;

(5) Conjunction with a physician assistant licensed pursuant to section 334.738;

(6) Conjunction with an assistant physician licensed under section 334.036;

(7) Consultation with another physician who has an ongoing physician-patient relationship with the patient, and who has agreed to supervise the patient's treatment, including use of any prescribed medications; or

(8) On-call or cross-coverage situations.

3. No health care provider, as defined in section 376.1350, shall prescribe any drug, controlled substance, or other treatment to a patient based solely on an evaluation over the telephone; except that, a physician or such physician's on-call designee, or an advanced practice registered nurse, a physician assistant, or an assistant physician in a collaborative practice arrangement with such physician, may prescribe any drug, controlled substance, or other treatment that is within his or her scope of practice to a patient based solely on a telephone evaluation if a previously established and ongoing physician-patient

relationship exists between such physician and the patient being treated.

4. No health care provider shall prescribe any drug, controlled substance, or other treatment to a patient based solely on an internet request or an internet questionnaire, as described in section 191.1146.